

THE LOCAL REVIEW



September 2026

Issue 45

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- **September 3rd**
John Boos Meeting
4:00 PM - Effingham
- **September 7th**
Labor Day Parades
and Picnic
- **September 21st**
Member Meeting
6 PM - Champaign
- **September 23rd**
Southern Committee
Meeting
6:30 PM - Wheeler
- **September 25th**
Retiree Breakfast
7 AM - Champaign
- **October 3rd**
Annual Tailgate
Memorial Stadium -
Lot 31. Time TBD

RECENT NEWS

Local 243 members recently stood together on the picket line at the Hub 3 project in Champaign during our strike against Drywall Enterprise. We want to thank every member who took the time to show up and walk the line, as well as our union brothers and sisters from other trades who came out to stand with us. Every person who joined the line helped strengthen our message and showed what solidarity looks like in action. The support shown throughout the picket was a great reminder of the strength we have when we stand together. We appreciate everyone who answered the call, helped spread the word, and stood alongside their brothers and sisters in support of fair wages and union standards. Thank you to everyone who showed up and stood with us!



IMPORTANT UPDATES

Our office will be closing at 12PM Friday, September 4th and will resume normal business hours on Tuesday September 8th in observance of Labor Day.

Reminder: RSVP for the Labor Day picnic, so we can get a head count to prepare enough food.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Visit mactc.org to enroll.

9/5: First Aid/CPR/AED
9/5 - 9/6: MEWPs
9/12: Ceiling Systems -
Exposed Grid

9/19: Welding - Basic
9/26: Transit Total Station
9/26: Floor Coverer Heat Welding
9/28: Door Hardware

SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS

Written by: Brittany Lindsey

Construction Suicide Prevention Week is September 14th through 18th.

I'd like to take the opportunity to bring awareness to the realities of suicide in the construction industry and to provide our members with the facts and resources needed to seek and offer support in times of crisis. I hope that this will bring open conversations, the ability to notice when someone is struggling and to remind our members that there is support available when they need it.

There is no single cause of suicide, and everyone's circumstances are different. But working in the trades can come with challenges that take a toll over time. Unpredictable work, time away from family, financial pressures, long hours, injuries and chronic pain are realities many carpenters may face throughout their careers. There can also be a tendency to keep pushing through and get the job done, even when things are difficult. That determination is something to be proud of, but no one should feel like they have to carry everything alone.

If there is one thing I hope you take away from this article, it's to check in on the people around you. If someone doesn't seem like themselves, or they are going through a difficult time or says something that concerns you, ask them how they're doing. Take a few minutes to listen. If they tell you they're struggling, take it seriously. You don't have to know exactly what to say, and you don't have to solve their problems. Sometimes the most important thing you can do is listen, stay connected and help them find the support they need. And if you're the one having a hard time, the same applies to you. Talk to someone you trust like a family member, friend, co-worker, or another person you feel comfortable reaching out to.

KNOW THE FACTS

12

An average of 12 workers in the construction industry die by suicide every day.

-[American Subcontractors Association](#)

2nd

The construction industry has the second highest suicide rate out of all other occupations in the United States.

-[NBC News](#)

18%

Nearly 18% of deaths by suicide were workers in the construction industry despite construction workers only representing 7.4% of the workforce.

-[American Journal of Industrial Medicine](#)

5x

Construction workers are five times more likely to die by suicide than by an on-the-job accident.

-[CPWR](#)



As union carpenters, you stand together and look out for one another, on and off the jobsite. Check in on your brothers and sisters. Speak up when something doesn't seem right. And don't be afraid to reach out when you're the one going through a difficult time.

Help is available:

Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: Call or Text 988

ComPsych (GuidanceNow): guidanceresources.com

Web ID: CIC Phone: 800-272-7255

BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois: Find care near you. bcbsil.com